

# Western Connecticut

## COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



TO: WestCOG Council Representatives  
FROM: Francis R. Pickering, Executive Director  
DATE: June 17, 2021  
RE: **SFY 2021 WestCOG Regional Services Grant spending plan**

### **Background**

Following the U.S. Department of Transportation, WestCOG's largest funder is the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM). WestCOG's OPM funding comes in the form of a Regional Services Grant (RSG) to be used for the provision of regional services, particularly those that result in cost savings to municipalities and local taxpayers.

To receive these funds for SFY 2022, WestCOG must submit a spending plan for the use of these funds to OPM by July 1, 2021.

An RSG spending plan for state fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022) is below. The plan, which has been recommended by the Executive Committee, anticipates that RSG funds would be expended as shown on the following page. The plan may be adjusted by the Executive Committee throughout the year as needed (for instance, should funding or project costs, scope, priorities, or viability change). The total funding provided to the COG is based on the Bill 1202, which is understood to be the budget implement for the legislature's June 2021 special session.

Since this Spending Plan was last presented to the COG on May 20, 2021, the Plan was modified to add a study of options for more routine or formalized interlocal coordination in "public health", based on the last year, where public health departments and districts collaborated extensively across jurisdictional boundaries.

### **Next steps**

The Executive Committee recommends approval of the SFY 2021 RSG spending plan.

## RSG Spending Plan

Activity	Description	Amount (est.)
Municipal technical assistance	Support of regional priorities. Includes data collection, analysis, reporting, and coordination in MS4 compliance, TOD/housing, renewable energy, disaster and climate change resilience, emergency response, telecommunications, and intergovernmental relations.	\$82,380.25
Regional economic development	Economic recovery and growth planning and assistance, including the WCEDD, CEDS, Next Generation Regional Sector Partnership, and federal grant coordination	\$94,333.06
Regional IT/systems architecture	Development of/enhancement to regional systems. Includes broadband, GIS, PSAP, portals/processors/connectors, and assistance in cybersecurity	\$256,989.63
Regional land use	Affordable housing plan, municipal model regulations (sustainability and public health), processing of land use referrals and related tasks	\$53,634.08
Regional environmental quality and public health	Well water testing, regional management of waste and recycling, interlocal health options	\$87,607.73
Annual report	Annual report on RSG. State mandate.	\$1,167.04
Direct charges		\$10,000.01
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$586,111.80</b>